

Pastor's Page

We definitely have had a busy summer! A full house for all SEVEN camps held at Grace this summer: ***Wind in the Willows, Science Camp, Art Camp, VBS, Art-e-Texture, and Beach Days.*** Thanks to the fabulous team of teachers, helpers and counselors for a great summer!

And now the Fall is almost upon us! We begin with our **Annual Rally Day on September 12th** . . . a day full of faith, fun, friendship, and food! Our choirs return from a much-deserved break to again enrich our worship services. And after the services we'll enjoy an afternoon BBQ at Carlson Park. Please plan to attend — and be sure to bring a friend!!!

But that's just the beginning. We invite you this Fall to become even more involved! Maybe it's being a part of the worship service, volunteering as a Sunday School teacher, helping in the office, serving on one of our committees, attending a Bible Study, working one of our flower beds, Grace Diner, making sandwiches the first Wednesday of each month for HIV patients... the list is endless.

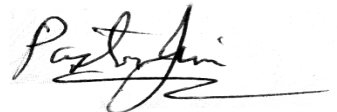
Suffice it to say, we need YOU to make it happen! We need each member of the body of Christ to take active ownership in using their God-given talents in giving back to our Lord and His church.

We're also excited to announce that we're going to create a **new pictorial directory** of our Grace family. The directory will help us connect names and faces; it's an ideal outreach tool, and will capture the history of our congregation. Please participate! For the next few weeks, we'll be making appointments before and after services. Every participant that selects a pose for the directory will receive a free directory and 8x10 portrait. (The program is available from OLIN MILLS at no cost to the church budget.) The photo dates are: Sept 23-25 and Sept 30-Oct 2. Call Marina in the office if you have any questions.

Some special events this month include **Psallo Gospel Concert Sept 11; Healing & Prayer Service on Sept 22** at 6:45 PM; and **BABY SUNDAY on Sept 26**, to gather parents and their children 0-4years old to celebrate this special time in parent/child lives!

Working together with a spirit of generous sharing, giving and support, we'll make this fall a great and meaningful time for all of us as we continue to grow and share in our journeys of faith and ministries...

Looking forward to this Fall Season with you. . .



Spiritual Growth

“I, the Lord, will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with My eye upon you.” Psalm 32: 8



Pastor’s Tuesday Night Bible Study resumes September 7th at 7pm. Studying Galatians. All are welcome!

Wednesdays at 10am (starting Sept 15) God Renewing Our Women (GROW)

Calling all women! Are you wondering how to be the woman of God that God desires for you? What is at the core of a woman's heart? Do you have hurts that need to be healed? For the Fall season, we will be exploring *Captivating* by John and Staci Eldredge (\$10.50, study guide optional \$8.00). Just one chapter a week! Come and be captivated by the living God who loves you.

If you can't come Wednesday, but still want to participate, you're welcome to purchase the book and follow along at home.

Wednesday Night Worship service—praise music, homily with Pastor Jim, fellowship and communion. A much needed mid-week FAITH LIFT! Come to the supper at 6pm, too.

Sept 22 SPECIAL PRAYER & HEALING service. Learn how to visualize health and allow the spirit of God to fill you with light and wholeness. You will come away refreshed and renewed and with some skills to help you pray for yourself and others.

For Men

Sept 24-26 Men’s Advance at El Camino Pines. Study and be strengthened by God’s Word, explore practical ways to serve, and experience the 3 “F’s”: Fellowship, fun and food! Cost: \$125/Sept 4, \$140 after. Please contact the church office to register.

For Women

October 15-17, 2010 Women’s Retreat at El Camino Pines

Dr. Georgie Rodiger

Theme: *He Maketh Me to Lie Down in Green Pastures*

Please contact the office for more information and the form.



Ways to help . . .

CALLING ALL SUNDAY SCHOOL PARTICIPANTS!

We have a wonderful program for kids ranging from pre-school age all the way through high school!

are you ready to **AKALOO** ?

Our Sunday School lesson plans are developed using a faith based program called Akaloo, derived from the Greek verb "to follow," so let's all get ready to Akaloo! Check out Akaloo for yourself at www.akaloo.org

Did you know? We have an amazing staff of 10 dedicated, wonderful teachers who help lead the lessons each week. There is always room for more, so if you are interested in becoming part of this teaching team, please feel free to e-mail or phone me at the numbers below. It is surprisingly easy as Akaloo has weekly lesson plans available for download. Your job as a teacher is to follow the lesson plan, bring a smile and a desire to spread the good words of Jesus to our children and teens.

Speaking of teens, we would love to get your teen more involved in the teaching process by having them lead their own lessons throughout the year. Again, please contact me if your teen is interested in becoming part of a "teacher in training" team of participants.

On behalf of the Sunday School teaching staff, we look forward to another great year and hope to see all the children of Grace this Fall!

Warmest regards from Beverly O'Brien, Sunday School Superintendent
310-251-0544 beverlyanddan@aol.com

Please remember our Shut-Ins

Some Grace members would love to have visits, cards, phone calls. . . **Jack Harrier, Pauline Lee, Trudi Moore, Elaine Goodyear, Lorene Jones, Fran Codd, and Lois Ostlund.** Call the office if you need addresses or phone numbers. God bless you for your ministry.



Upcoming . . . Sept 1-14

SEPT 4 CHIEFS at 6:30pm.

All are welcome to join this potluck and card games fellowship. Call Dolores Johnson for more info: (323)292-9998.

SEPT 5 ONE SERVICE in honor of LABOR DAY — 10am

SEPT 11 Psallo Gospel Choir Concert—7pm

Lift your spirits — and be uplifted by the Spirit!
Featuring Delicia Smith (Grace choir member, cantor and soloist). Donations GLADLY accepted.
Proceeds benefit Grace Diner.



SEPT 12 Rally Day Picnic—12:30pm Carlson Park



Rally back to the 50's for a rooting good time at the Annual Rally Day Picnic (located 4 blocks away at Braddock and LeBourget). BRING a good old fashioned hot-dish, salad or dessert. We will provide hot dogs, burgers and fries. WEAR jeans & t-shirt, or poodle skirt, and athletic shoes. We will gather for a potluck, play games, hear some good ol' 50's music and best of all, visit with friends.

To help pay for expenses, we will have a WHITE ELEPHANT SALE! Bring your stuff (priced, please) and we will sell it at the picnic. Homemade baked goods would be a great item to sell as well!

SEPT 13 Grace Diner One Year Anniversary . . .



And the program is going strong! Grace Diner is a hot dinner served with love to people who have trouble keeping food on the table. We serve 35 people a week and offer take out of an additional 10 meals. Our diners have become our friends and it is always a privilege to serve them, to make them feel they are not less than God's own children. Thank you for all the volunteer hours and donations— it couldn't happen without YOU!!

Upcoming . . . Sept 15-30

SEPT 15 XYZ is back! Meet at 10am at the church

We have not had a field trip in a while with all the summer camps, so it is time to get out and see what is happening around LA. After going to the Science Museum with one of our camps, I think we need to visit the new wings that have been recently added to this museum. If time permits maybe we could see an IMAX movie, which is \$5/ticket; the museum itself is free.

Bring money for lunch and call the church to RSVP as we can only take 13 people.



SEPT 15 NEW! Cherub Choir—2:30-3PM see page 8 for details

SEPT 16 T.A.G. starts up — see page 8 for details

SEPT 18 Budget Workshop—10am

Come find out where your money goes at Grace. The church is dependent on generous stewardship from its congregation. We could not keep the doors open without your support. Come look at the new proposed budget and ask questions. We want our finances to be an open book for all to see and understand. Donuts, Bagels, and coffee served.



SEPT 19 Sunday School begins

Volunteers needed: Preschool-high school. See page 3 for details. Thanks!

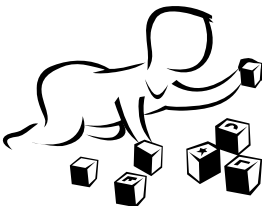
SEPT 22 6:45pm—A special PRAYER & HEALING service.

Learn how to visualize health and allow the spirit of God to fill you with light and wholeness. You will come away refreshed and renewed and with some skills to help you pray for yourself and others.



SEPT 26 BABY SUNDAY Calling ALL parents of children 0-4 yrs

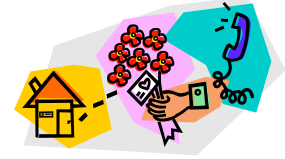
This will be a relaxing time to gather, chat with other parents, share stories, swap anecdotes and celebrate this special time in your lives. Meet between services. (We'll also take some casual family pictures for the montage page in the new directory, so don't miss it!)



Thanks!

From Elaine Hente . . .

Dear Friends of Grace,
Thank you, thank you SO much for the celebration on July 11, kindness, good wishes, AND very generous gift which you gave me upon my retirement from my position as Church Administrator/Secretary at Grace. To say I am at a loss for words is an understatement! Grace is so much about helping others - and you all helped me in so many ways over the past years.



As I write this note, Marty and I are in New York visiting family and then off to Europe on Monday, August 16. We will be going to Germany to see the Passion Play in Oberammergau (which is held every 10 years), as well as Austria and Switzerland, then back to New York for a few days. After that, we'll fly to Missouri from New York for Marty's dad's 95th birthday.

God's love is so evident in the congregation of Grace Lutheran Church! Thank you.

From Pastor Ellen, El Salvador . . .

It was such a privilege for me to take all your donations to the people of the Lutheran Churches in El Salvador. There were almost 100 lbs. of clothes, shoes, medicines, school supplies and dental supplies. PLUS \$1900 cash for ministries!!!! PLUS drawings from the children in Grace's summer art camp to share with the children in the 5 rural churches. Thank you from all the people who received those donations. It was such a blessing to see the joy in their faces and hear the thanks, prayers and hugs that they asked me to bring back to you. Our congregation received a colorful wooden plaque that will hang in one of our Sunday School rooms.



Bishop Medardo Gomez, Pastor Matias and Pastora Martina in particular send greetings to our congregation. The trip was especially powerful since we had 3 bishops in our delegation this year. We all participated in gatherings and worked together in the homeless shelter, elementary school and several churches. It is such an encouragement to the Salvadorans to have this evidence of our accompaniment with them in ministry that serves so many who are poor in possessions but rich in faith and love. 'll be scheduling a time to share details of our mission trip. *Gracias y bendiciones de Dios!*



What is “Stewardship”?

Stewardship is an expression of faith. We accept God's gifts gratefully, tending them responsibly, and sharing them in justice and love. We conscientiously evaluate our current resources and plan our gifts to the church appropriately. We often need to remind ourselves of our blessings and our true ability to give generously.

Donor Advised Fund

Did you know that you can maximize your charitable giving to the church and its ministries, receive favorable tax deductions, and annually advise which ministries will receive gifts? Through a Donor Advised Fund with the ELCA Foundation, you can establish a fund with a minimum gift of \$10,000, receive an immediate tax deduction for the gift and each year advise the ELCA Foundation about the ministries of the church you wish to receive distributions from the fund. In addition, your donor advised fund assets have the opportunity to grow in value, thereby allowing you to give more to the ministries of your choice. For further information, contact our gift planner, Greg Shepherd by calling: (909)910-6823 or by emailing at: gregory.shepherd@elca.org.



Please contact Greg Shepherd or ask Ken Smith, Lu Petersen or Nancy Watson about the new Grace Church **Endowment Fund**. Over \$20,000 have been donated so far by members looking to the future of Grace . . .

“You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God.”

2 Corinthians:9:11-12



AUG 30 After School at Grace

This year Grace Church will offer 15 spots for youth to come hang out for homework. The fire-side room will be open 2:30-6:00pm Mon-Friday, with daily snacks. Students will be expected to work on homework and do silent reading before doing any recreational activity. Parents need to register their child and pay a monthly fee of \$20/family (even if child is ill or there are vacation days). The month of December will be free due to shortened month. In the event more than 15 teens sign up we may consider opening up more spots. Please contact the office to register.



Students that just come for confirmation or TAG may attend them for no fee. The monthly fee is to provide snacks, internet access, overall building usage.

SEPT 8 Wednesdays High School Snack and Chat — 4pm

So you loved the conversation in confirmation and want to be able to hang with your peers? Drop in Wednesdays at 4pm and let's chat. Yes, there will be food! We will begin on Wednesday, September 8th — friends needed!

SEPT 14 Confirmation — 3--4pm 5th through 9th grade

This year we will be using a program called "Re:form" where we will encounter, engage and respond to the material. We will spend some time on the Bible, Creed, Discipleship and Jesus. Sharing beliefs, thoughts and experiences, that's what Confirmation is all about! Please register ASAP . . . and bring as many friends as possible!

Doris MacGregor 310-559-1027.



Sept 15 NEW! Cherub Choir — 2:30-3PM Ages 3-7years old

Cherub Choir will begin on Wednesdays (can we call this WAG? :) The cherub choir will focus on traditional children's choir pieces. The kids will explore the music through words, art, bells, and movement. Music presentations will be monthly in the 9AM services. A schedule will be handed out the first and second weeks of class.



SEPT 16 Thursdays at Grace (TAG) 3:30-5PM Ages 7-16 years old

Our focus is that singing and talking about God is FUN! Starting in late September the TAG group will concentrate on Performing Arts pieces with the goal of presenting 3 staged plays per year - one of which will be our yearly Christmas presentation. There will still be musical presentations in the 9AM and 11AM services once a month, and solo presentations from the group on one additional Sunday per month. All this and it's still FREE!!!! A schedule will be handed out the first and second weeks of class.



9 ETC . . .



Fall Music Concerts at Grace

It's the return of the Grace Concert season and we have an exciting line-up started. The gospel choir "Psallo" kicks off the series on Sept 11 (see page 5). Future concerts will be held by Opera Plus! and the Oceanaires.

We also hope to present an original musical composed by Cody Gillette based on the children's classic "**The Princess and the Goblins**" in May 2011.



Psallo, Gospel Choir — Sat., Sept. 11 at 7pm
John Cannon, Pipe Organ Concert — Sat., Oct. 23 at 8pm
Choraliers Christmas, Wedn., Dec 8 at 8pm

PHOTOS for new picture Directory. Whether you're a member, regular visitor or only come to Grace on special occasions, you are a part of our Grace family and we want **YOU** to be in our new directory! Olin Mills will be here Sept 23, 24, 25 and Sept 30, Oct 1, 2. It's a GREAT opportunity to get some fresh family photos — just in time for the holidays!! Be sure to make a reservation to have your picture taken. Sign up on Sundays.

Enjoy the convenience of electronic giving!

We offer electronic giving as a way to automate your regular weekly offering. Electronic giving offers convenience for our members and much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.



There are two ways to set up electronic donations. You can visit the church website at **www.GraceCulver.org** locate the donation link and follow the instructions or, if you wish, you can simply complete a paper authorization form in the church office. Thank you for your faithfulness!

SAVE THE DATE! Tuesday, Oct. 5, 2010, the Culver Palms Meals on Wheels will hold their 2nd fundraiser of the year at Truxton's American Bistro Restaurant in Westchester. Eat lunch or dinner at Truxton's that day and CP MOW will receive 15%. **YOU MUST HAVE A FLYER** for CP MOW to receive the money. Truxton's —8611 Truxton Ave., Los Angeles, 90045, open from 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Flyers are available from: Doris & Larry Green. Doris MacGregor, Barbara Jefferson, & the CP MOW office (Parish Hall).



Prayer Concerns

Keep these members and their families in your prayers for health and in the loving care of our Lord.



Everett Aspenson
Patti & Sean Baker
Paula Boelsems
Oscar Carter
Fran Codd
Betty Davis
Lynn Erickson
Marion Firnhaber
Jerry Frascella
Elaine Goodyear
Bette & George Gregory
Goller family
Jack Harrier
Lorene Jones
Patti LaBarbera
Trudi Moore
Shirley Nowlin
Lois Ostlund
Pastor Ed Petersen
Albert Prabhu
Maxine Stenstrom
Margaret Zamorano

Members in the Military

Natalie Meyers
John Meyers
& your

**Prayer Partner
or Compadre**

Church Staff & Council

The Rev. James S. Maines, Pastor

Doris MacGregor, Youth & Family Parish Worker
Marina Tidwell, Church Administrator
Mary Lou Basaraba, Director of Music Ministries
Jim Snodgrass, Handbell Choir Director
Bets Danko, Children's Music Director
Laura Chapman, Bookkeeper
Don Martin, Custodian
Jim Harrold, Facilities Manager
Wanda Hunter, Nursery Attendant

Jim Snodgrass	President & Property/Support
Marty Hente	Secretary & Property/Support
Marsha Heath	Treasurer
Norman Auslander	Fellowship & Outreach
Cathy Biggs	Fellowship, Christian Service
Margaret Lowe	Stewardship & Finance
Grace Elliott	Fellowship, Education
Dolores Johnson	Christian Service
Lu Petersen	Property & Support
Ken Smith	Stewardship & Finance
Len Lovgren	Worship & Music
Margaret Lowe	Stewardship
Colin Tidwell	Youth
Beverly O'Brien	Sunday School Superintendent

Happy Birthday



09/01 Isaac Danner	09/12 Thomas Szujewski
09/01 Patricia LaBarbera	09/13 James Snodgrass
09/03 Jin Jin Mayberry	09/16 Emery Johnson
09/05 James Maines	09/19 Kristin Berger
09/09 Bette Gregory	09/19 Ross Berger
09/09 Cherie Riban	09/21 Doris Green
09/10 Karen Ellingson	09/25 Jack Harrier
09/10 Donna Wilson	09/28 Kathleen Tepley
09/12 Andrew Lowe	09/30 Elaine Hente

GRACE NOTES
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Grace Lutheran Church
Rev. James S. Maines, Pastor

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Fax: 310-559-9269
Youth: 310-841-5066

Worship Services
Sundays at 9 & 11 a.m.
Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m.

RALLY DAY!

Sept 12 at 12:30pm

CARLSON PARK (Braddock and Le Bourget)
1950's theme party and WHITE ELEPHANT sale!
Cookout, games, fellowship. . . Gathering!



See page 4 for how YOU can be a part of the fun!